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PATENT

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

INVENTOR: Francis A. Ambrovich et al. ) EXAMINER: Zeinab El Arini  
SERIAL NO.: 09/650,103 ) )  
FILING DATE: August 29, 2000 ) ART UNIT: 1746  
FOR: METHOD FOR SURFACE )  
PREPARATION OF )  
WORKPIECES UTILIZING )  
FLUID SEPARATION )  
TECHNIQUES )

**AMENDMENT UNDER RULE 312**

Mail Stop ISSUE FEE  
Commissioner of Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Responsive to the Notice of Allowance mailed August 27, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows: